



**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2015 MEETING**  
**OF THE**  
**NEWCASTLE/OPHIR MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**Ophir Elementary School, 1373 Lozano Rd., Newcastle, CA**

**Members Present**

Karen Green  
Elliott Rose  
Joe Irvin  
Ed Sander  
Sam Moore  
Lowell Jarvis  
Steve Palmer

**Members Absent**

**County Staff Present**

Leah Rosasco

**County Staff Absent**

Supervisor Jim Holmes

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Council was called to order at 7:01 p.m.  
All MAC Members present.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 16, 2014 MEETING WERE APPROVED**

Motion made by Elliott Rose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ed Sander, motion carried.

**4. THE FEBRUARY 19, 2015 AGENDA WAS APPROVED**

Motion made by Karen Green, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Irvin, motion carried.

**5. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS**

- **California Highway Patrol:** No one in attendance
- **Newcastle Fire Department:** No one in attendance  
Mitch Higgins, Newcastle/Penryn Chief - Newcastle Fire approved contract with Penryn Fire to work together to target solutions for some improvement changes. These involved getting rid of old equipment and replacing it with new ones. The Penryn Fire did well in this last audit which was completed 5-6 months ago – it received an insurance rating of 5, down from a previous 6.
- **Placer County Sheriff's Department:** No one in attendance
- **Placer County Fire Department:** No one in attendance

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None regarding agenda items.

Joni Elder, Newcastle resident – read her letter to the Board regarding her concerns about the upcoming Auburn Triathlons taking place on May 17, 2015. Some of these voiced concerns were:

- The growing number of participants this race draws every year, 950 participants is a lot of cyclists riding in the small area of Newcastle's rural roads.

- The event takes place on a Sunday, and the road closure by the 3-way intersection of Auburn Folsom Road, Rattlesnake Road and Shirland Tract, by Scotties Corner Feed Store, inconvenience many residents who are held back from getting to their homes till the last participant gets through.
- There's no notification of the event until a few days before the event. The promoters of the event should at least post a sign.
- There should be better traffic control in the Newcastle area. CHP and Auburn PD usually at major intersections along the route to close them to traffic and allow athletes to pass freely.

Question: What kind of permits are required for this kind of event?

Answer: Temporary event permit? Event promoter may not have submitted request yet.

Leah Rosasco to follow up regarding the requirements needed to get this event's permit from the county.

Mitch Higgins, Newcastle/Penryn Chief – received email from the Sheriff's Office about mail thefts and arrest of female with stolen mail in her car. There's a search for an additional male suspect. Theft occurred on Newcastle/Ridge Roads.

Three females were also arrested after their car was stopped and searched and found to have piles of stolen mail inside the vehicle.

It is tax year time, and it is the reason these mail thefts are on the rise, even lockboxes are being ripped open. It is best and safer to let the mail go to a post office box. Higgins encourages people to call the Sheriff's Office when something/someone appears to be unusual or suspect. Do not put yourself in danger, but try to take as much information as you can about description of vehicle and license plate.

Question: Does the Post Office have inspectors that investigate these mail thefts crimes?

Answer: They do investigate, since it is a Federal Offense, but it is the Sheriff's Office who conducts the investigation also, because it falls into identity theft crime.

Question: Why was a Post Office mail truck driving around on a Sunday?

Answer- Leah: US Postal Service contracted with Amazon to do deliveries, not mail. Amazon is a subcontractor, like UPS on Sunday.

Question: Kids on Foresthill Bridge – how many are from Sacramento and how many of these are local kids?

Answer: Not known. Many kids have been drawn to the bridge in recent months to hang from its girders. This issue has worsened in recent months due to social media where photos of people hanging from the bridge have been posted.

**7. COUNTY UPDATE:** Supervisor Holmes was attending a public forum. Administrative Aide, Leah Rosasco, presented the following items:

- Costco's termination of lease of the DeWitt property. The relocation of the Multipurpose Senior Center may continue. The building will still be destroyed. Costco is not

providing any information regarding its decision.

- England's Warwick University set to open campus on 600 acres of donated land in Placer County, west of Roseville. The plans for the school will be to offer post-graduate courses and an enrollment of 6,000 students by 2021.
- Placer County's December unemployment rate is at its lowest from 2007, down to 5.2%.
- County hired Dede Cordell as a new Director of Communications and Public Affairs. She will serve, among other things, as the spokesperson for the county. Cordell was Chief of Public Affairs for the Sacramento District of US Army Corps of Engineers and has Public Sector experience in her background.
- Raise 80 Project – The best information on the Raise project is at the website Caltrans has set for the project. Please continue to check the [Raise 80.com](http://Raise80.com) website for construction schedule.

Placer County is seeking applications for the Assessment Appeals Board, an entity dealing with real property valuation in the county. Board members must have five years of professional experience in California working as: a certified public accountant or public accountant; a licensed real estate broker; an attorney; a property appraiser accredited by a nationally recognized professional organization; or a property appraiser certified by the Office of Real Estate Appraisers. Board members receive compensation for their services, \$100 per meeting. Those interested in serving on this active and important board are encouraged to complete a county Committees and Commissions application, available online. If interested, Leah will provide additional information.

## **8. Informational Non-Action Items:**

### **a) PCWA Projects Update**

Staff from the Placer County Water Agency will update the MAC on the waterline extension currently in progress on Ophir Road, and the upcoming project to replace the water pipe that runs over Lozanos Road just north of Ophir Road.

**Presenters: Ken Stram, PCWA (Ophir Road Pipeline Extension), Ken Powers, PCWA (Lozanos Road Pipe Replacement)**

Ken Stram – The Ophir Road new 12" water line extension is 2000 ft. long and goes up to Wise Road. A new water meter has been installed to serve the community. Water line has been placed and tested. The work now involves pavement restoration on Ophir Road, replacing asphalt and putting in new concrete. There is a temporary limit on paving asphalt. Work is to forge ahead to take advantage of the good weather. By next week, paving should be completely done.

Work scheduled to put in a lane replacement within 3 weeks, if weather permits. Lane would be closed. Temporary stop lights would be placed from Wise Road to the West and from Wise Road to the East for a few weeks. Afterwards, lane would be open to traffic. The final course of asphalt would be done in one day.

Ken Powers – Project to replace the water pipe on the Lozano Road overcrossing. The pipeline is very old; it will be replaced with a steel structure instead of a wood structure. The project is still in a pre-design stage. Due to the difficult location, no

decision has been made yet regarding which direction to place the water pipe. Once the decision has been made, the permits will be obtained. The project is scheduled to take place in the fall to minimize the impact on people.

**9. Action Items:**

**a) Selection of 2015 MAC Chair and Vice Chair**

At the beginning of each year, the MAC members move to select a new chair and vice chair to lead the monthly MAC discussion. The MAC will select this person at this meeting.

**Motion made by Lowell Jarvis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elliott Rose to nominate Sam Moore as MAC Chair, all ayes, motion carried.**

**Motion made by Lowell Jarvis, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Irvin to nominate Karen Green as MAC Vice Chair, all ayes, motion carried.**

**10. MAC Member reports and Correspondence: None**

Karen Green – Newcastle is searching for a Superintendent for 5 districts to oversee schools from Rocklin and Tahoe. The ideal candidate would be someone with superintendent experience, and who is also a presence in the community. Consultants' group in charge of the search and background screen seems very professional. They will present the ones who seem best qualified for the position. The time frame is by school's year end. Many have applied from local districts.

Health Department through Placer Community Network. Health assessment to be concluded in December 2016. Goal is to find out how to create a Community Health Improvement Committee to see what resources need to be re-directed. It is an aging population, and it would be helpful to local residents to know what resources would be available to them.

It would be good to advertise this to the larger community area.

Leah Rosasco – Will find out – Dr. Oldman did the project presentation for today's meeting.

Question: Will there be an update on the Homeless Shelter at next meeting?

Answer: Rosasco – will find out.

**11. The next scheduled MAC meeting is Thursday, March 19, 2015.**

**11. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.**